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[Inclosure.]

*Report of infectious disease in Japan from July 26 to August 20, 1899.*

Locality.	Plague.		Cholera.		Dysentery.		Smallpox.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Kioto Fu.....					291	49		
Osaka Fu.....					188	31		
Tokyo Fu.....			19	4	620	143		
Aichi Ken.....					242	49		
Akita Ken.....					14	1		
Awomori Ken.....					107	9		
Chiba Ken.....					348	94		
Fukui Ken.....					374	123		
Fukuoka Ken.....			1		150	23		
Fukushima Ken.....					2,153	346		
Gifu Ken.....					419	98		
Gumma Ken.....					885	201		
Hiogo Ken.....					342	80	1	
Hiroshima Ken.....					230	52		
Ibaraki Ken.....					570	155		
Ishikawa Ken.....					361	58		
Iwate Ken.....					579	89		
Kagawa Ken.....					228	41		
Kagoshima Ken.....					241	40		
Kanagawa Ken.....			3		706	167	a 1	
Kochi Ken.....					117	28		
Kumamoto Ken.....					433	77		
Miyagi Ken.....					192	32		
Miyazaki Ken.....					205	24		
Miye Ken.....			1		100	32		
Nagano Ken.....					1,529	350		
Nagasaki Ken.....	a 1				200	37		
Nara Ken.....					44	16		
Niigata Ken.....					3,519	650		
Oita Ken.....					202	41		
Okayama Ken.....					493	142		
Okinawa Ken.....					36	5		
Saga Ken.....					77	12		
Saitama Ken.....					610	186		
Shidzuoka Ken.....					568	131		
Shiga Ken.....					74	20		
Shimane Ken.....					148	21		
Tochigi Ken.....					408	67		
Tokushima Ken.....					173	34		
Tottori Ken.....					80	20		
Toyama Ken.....					80	52		
Wakayama Ken.....					104	19		
Yamagata Ken.....					126	19		
Yamaguchi Ken.....					144	25		
Yamanashi Ken.....					840	193		
Yehime Ken.....					145	34		
The Hokkaido.....					6	1		
Taiwan (Formosa) b								

a In quarantine.

b No report.

*Consul at Nagasaki explains concerning the case of plague on the Nippon Maru.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, September 11, 1899.

SIR: Referring to this Department's letter of July 8 last, relative to a case of bubonic plague which appeared on board the Japanese steamship *Nippon Maru* while on its voyage to San Francisco, I have the honor, by direction of the Secretary of State, to inclose for your information a copy of a dispatch from the consul of the United States at Nagasaki, reporting that it was through no fault of his that the vessel was supplied with a bill of health, he having been misinformed as to the nature of the disease and the death having occurred after the vessel cleared from the port of Nagasaki.

From the statements in the dispatch it appears to this Department that the consul's explanation is both reasonable and satisfactory.

Yours, respectfully,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,  
*Third Assistant Secretary.*

The honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Nagasaki, Japan, August 8, 1899.*

SIR: I have to acknowledge receipt of instruction No. 51 of the 8th ultimo, inclosing copy of a dispatch from our consul-general at Honolulu, informing the Department of what seemed to him to be an oversight on my part in my not mentioning on the supplemental bill of health, issued by me on May 26, 1899, to the Japanese vessel *Nippon Maru*, of a death on board such vessel from bubonic plague, and the subsequent detention of said vessel, which occurred near the quarantine station in Nagasaki. Of my action in the matter the Department requests an explanation.

In reply, will state that the *Nippon Maru* cleared this port on the afternoon of May 26, and took with her my clean bill of health, issued after receiving from her surgeon a certificate, which, among other things, says: "The sanitary condition of the steamship *Nippon Maru* is good, and that there is not, nor has there been during this voyage, any contagious disease on board," a copy of such certificate inclosed.

The next day I was informed that the vessel was at the quarantine station, and was to be held there seven days, by reason of a death on board. The cause of death, as reported by the quarantine authorities, was plague, and that given by the surgeon of the ship, was heart disease.

Upon investigation I found that about an hour after she sailed from Nagasaki, the death occurred. The vessel was put about and stopped, and the case reported to the quarantine officials, who ordered the quarantine.

As soon as the hour arrived at which the quarantine expired, the vessel sailed for Kobe. The agents of the ship reported to me, verbally, that she did not have communication with the shore, nor did she reenter the port.

It will be seen from the facts stated, that I could not have mentioned on the supplemental bill of health the cause of the detention.

As the *Nippon Maru* had been long delayed at this quarantine, and as I felt certain that the cause of her detention would be reported by her surgeon, inquiries made into and the cause of such detention mentioned in subsequent supplemental bills of health, at her ports of call (which seems to have been the case at Yokohama and Honolulu), I did not consider it necessary to report the matter to the Department.

Respectfully, yours,

CHARLES B. HARRIS,  
*Consul.*

The honorable the ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

TOYO KISEN KAISHA,  
*Agency, Nagasaki, May 26, 1899.*

DEAR SIR: This is to certify that the sanitary condition of the steamship *Nippon Maru* is good, and that there is not, nor has there been during this voyage, any contagious disease on board.

There disembarked at this port 5 passengers, whose baggage, as well as themselves, was inspected and found satisfactory.

Respectfully, yours,

W. B. DEAS, M. D.,  
*Surgeon, Toyo Kisen Kaisha Steamship Nippon Maru.*  
C. B. HARRIS, Esq., *United States Consul, Nagasaki.*

MEXICO.

*Handling of passengers and their effects bound for the Mexico-Texas border.*

CITY OF MEXICO, MEXICO, *August 19, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report concerning the handling of passengers to the Mexico-Texas border:

1. Passengers from all localities south or east of the City of Mexico are classed as "suspects" until they give satisfactory proof of a con-